

STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM: 2010/11 Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program Update

STAFF: Kelly Long, OHMVR Division

DATE: August 6, 2011

Issue: Update on the Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program.

Background: The 2010/11 cycle of the Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program (Grants Program) opened on January 10, 2011. A total of \$27.1 million was available for the grant cycle. The Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division received 234 projects from 109 applicants requesting \$34.5 million by the March 6, 2011, preliminary application deadline. These applications were available for review and comment by the public. The OHMVR Division provided comments to the applicants on April 8, 2011.

Applicants addressed comments and revised applications during the month of April. A total of 232 projects from 107 applicants were submitted by the final application deadline of May 2, 2011.

Discussion: Grants Program staff reviewed and scored the final applications throughout the month of May. The Intent to Award document was posted on the Division's website on June 6, 2011.

Final Awards for the 2010/11 Grants Program were posted on July 7, 2011. A total of 217 projects adding up to more than \$25.6 million in funding was awarded. Grants Program staff are currently coordinating with the successful candidates to prepare project agreements.

On May 6, 2011, the Division sent out an email to interested parties advising them that the Commission would be taking public input on the Grants Program at their May 25, 2011, meeting. Comments and suggestions could also be sent directly to the Division. At the May 25th meeting, the Commission received input from several members of the public regarding possible improvements to the Grants Program regulations.

After considering suggestions from the public and reviewing the recent grant cycle and program, Division staff proposed changes to the Grants Program regulations. These proposed changes are subject to the Administrative Procedures Act and are available for a minimum 45-day public review. The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking was published on August 5, 2011 and written comments may be submitted to the Division through September 20, 2011. A public hearing is also scheduled for September 20, 2011, at which time interested parties may present oral comments. The hearing will be held at the OHMVR headquarters and will commence at 3:00 p.m.

**Commission
Action:**

For information only.